

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of presenting offers of travel services comprising:
 - a. providing a client computer having a human interface;
 - b. inputting via the human interface, a request for details of travel services,
5 the request being in a format intelligible to a GDS;
 - c. sending a first copy of the request to the GDS;
 - d. sending, through the Internet, a second copy of the request to a server
computer;
 - e. receiving, from the GDS, a first details of travel services;
 - f. receiving, via the Internet, from the server computer a second details of
10 travel services, the second details of travel services having been received
by the server computer in response to a supplier request, from the server
computer to a supplier, wherein the supplier request is composed
responsive to a data content of the request for services; and
 - g. outputting, via the human interface, a representation of the first and the
15 second details of travel services.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein
the supplier response is a web response received from a supplier
web site and the supplier request is a web request sent via the Internet.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising
the act of emulating a GDS terminal.
4. A method of generating an accounting record comprising the acts of:
receiving in a client application program a reservation confirmation from Internet;
reformatting the reservation confirmation according to a GDS (global distribution
system) to create a reformatted reservation record;
sending the reformatted reservation record to the GDS; and
receiving by an accounting application program, an accounting record sent by the
GDS in response to receiving the reformatted reservation record.
5. A method of generating an accounting record comprising the acts of:
receiving in a client workstation application program a reservation confirmation
from Internet;
reformatting, in a gateway, the reservation confirmation according to an
accounting application program to create a reformatted reservation record;

sending the reformatted reservation record to an accounting in an application system computer; and

receiving by the accounting application program the reformatted reservation record sent by the gateway.

6. A method of providing at a processing station an indication of a transaction defined by a plurality of specified parameters, including the steps of:
- providing legacy transactions, and the costs of performing the legacy transactions, meeting the plurality of specified parameters,
 - providing individual transactions, and the costs of performing the individual transactions, constituting other than the legacy transactions and meeting the plurality of specified parameters,
 - providing for a display, on a first portion of the display screen, of the legacy transactions and the cost of performing each of the legacy transactions, and
 - providing for a display, on a second portion of the display screen different from the first portion of the display screen, of the individual transactions and the cost of performing each of the individual transactions.

7. A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein

the legacy transactions are airline flights from an originating position to a destination on a particular date and the costs of the legacy transactions are provided through a wide area network to the first portion of the display screen and wherein

5 the individual transactions are airline flights from the originating position to the destination on the particular date and wherein

each of the individual transactions, and the cost of each of the individual transactions are provided through the internet to the second portion of the display screen.

8. A method as set forth in claim 7 wherein

the costs of the legacy flights are established and published prices normally charged for the legacy flights and wherein the costs of the individual flights are prices discounted from the normally charged prices.

9. A method as set forth in claim 7 wherein

the legacy flights are the flights provided by a first group of airlines and the costs of the legacy flights are established and published prices normally charged by these airlines for these flights and wherein

5 the individual flights are flights by airlines other than the first group of airlines
and the costs of these individual flights are the prices charged by the other airlines for these
flights.

10. A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein

 the legacy transactions are cruises from an originating position to a destination on
a particular date and wherein the legacy transactions and the costs of the legacy transactions are
provided through a wide area network to the first portion of the display screen and wherein

 the individual transactions are cruises from the originating positions to the
destinations on the particular date and wherein each of the individual transactions and the cost of
each of the individual transactions are provided through the internet to the second portion of the
display screen and wherein

 the costs of the legacy cruises are the prices normally charged for the flights and
wherein the costs of the individual cruises are the prices discounted from the normally charged
prices for the cruises.

11. A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein

 the legacy transactions are car rentals from a first group of car rental agencies and
the costs of the car rentals from the first group of rental agencies and wherein the legacy

transactions and the costs of the legacy transactions are indicated in the first portion of the display screen and wherein

the individual transactions are car rentals from car rental agencies other than the first group of car rental agencies and wherein the individual transactions and the costs of the individual transactions are indicated in the second portion of the display screen.

12. A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein

the legacy transactions are hotel reservations from a first group of hotels and the costs of the hotel reservations from the first group of hotels and wherein the legacy transactions and the costs of the legacy transactions are indicated in the first portion of the display screen and wherein

the individual transactions are from hotel reservations other than the first group of hotels and wherein the individual transactions and the costs of the individual transactions are indicated in the second portion of the display screen.

13. A method of providing at a processing station an indication of a minimal price for an event, including the steps of:

providing prices for the event at the processing station from a plurality of first sources offering established and published prices for the event,

5 providing prices for the event at the processing stations from a plurality of second
sources offering special prices for the event,
providing a display screen having first and second display portions,
displaying in the first portion of the display screen the established and published
prices provided in the processing station of the event from the first sources, and
10 displaying in the second portion of the display screen the special prices provided
by the processing station of the event from the second sources.

14. A method as set forth in claim 13 wherein

the special prices are provided through the internet to the second portion of the
display screen and wherein

the established and published prices are provided to the first portion of the display
screen through a medium other than the internet.

15. A method as set forth in claim 13 wherein

the special prices on the second portion of the display screen are displaced
simultaneously with the established and published prices on the first portion of the display
screen.

16. A method as set forth in claim 13 wherein

the prices from the first sources are provided in a first protocol and wherein

the prices from the second sources are provided in a second protocol different

from the first protocol and wherein

the first and second protocols are made compatible in the processing system to

provide for the selection of one of the events, and price for that event, from the first and second sources.

17. A method as set forth in claim 13 wherein

the special prices on the second portion of the display screen are displaced

simultaneously with the established and published prices on the first portion of the display screen and wherein

the prices from the first sources are provided in a first protocol and wherein

the prices from the second sources are provided in a second protocol different

from the first protocol and wherein

the first and second protocols are made compatible in the processing system to

provide for the selection of one of the events, and price for that event, from the first and second sources.

18. A method as set forth in claim 14 wherein
the special prices on the second portion of the display screen are displayed
simultaneously with the published prices on the first portion of the display screen and wherein
the prices from the first sources are provided in a first protocol and wherein
5 the prices from the second sources are provided in a second protocol different
from the first protocol and wherein
the first and second protocols are made compatible in the processing system to
provide for the selection of one of the events, and the price for that event, from the first and
second sources.

19. A method of providing at a processing station an indication of a minimal
price for an event, including the steps of:
providing retail prices for the event from legacy sources,
providing discounted prices for the event from sources other than the legacy
5 sources,
providing a display screen having first and second display portions,
displaying in the first portion of the display screen the retail uses of the event, and
displaying in the second portion of the display screen the discounted prices for the
event.

20. A method as set forth in claim 19, including the step of:

displaying in one of the portions of the display screen the selection of one of the prices from the retail prices shown in the first portion of the display screen and the discounted prices shown in the second portion of the display screen.

21. A method as shown in claim 19 wherein

the legacy prices are provided through a wide area network and wherein

the discounted prices are provided through the internet.

22. A method as set forth in claim 19 wherein

the event is an airline flight on a specified day from a first specified locality to a second specified locality and wherein

the legacy system is selected from a group of main frames including Sabre, Galileo, Amadeus and Worldspan and wherein

the other sources provide air fares selected from individual airlines not within any of the mainframe groups, Orbitz and an inventory of consolidated air fares.

23. A method as set forth in claim 20 wherein
the legacy prices are provided through a wide area network and wherein
the discounted prices are provided through the internet and wherein
the event is an airline flight on a specified day from a first specified locality to a
5 second specified locality and wherein

the legacy system is a selected from a group of main frames including Sabre,
Galileo, Amadeus and Worldspan and wherein

the other sources include air fares selected from individual airlines not within any
of the mainframe groups, Orbitz and an inventory of consolidated air fares.

24. A method of providing at a processing station an indication of a transaction
defined by a plurality of specified parameters, including the steps of:

providing, in a first protocol, a plurality of legacy transactions including the cost
of performing each of the transactions,

5 providing, in a second protocol different from the first protocol, a plurality of
individual transactions including the cost of performing each of the transactions,

providing a protocol compatible with the first and second protocols to obtain in
the compatible protocol the indications of the legacy transactions and the individual transactions,

providing a display in a first portion of the display screen, using the compatible
10 protocol, of the legacy transactions,

providing a display in a second portion of the display screen, using the compatible protocol, of the individual transactions.

25. A method as set forth in claim 24 wherein

the legacy transactions are flights between originating positions and destinations of scheduled flights on particular days at prices established and published by specific airlines and offered to the public and wherein

the individual flights are the specific legacy flights at prices discounted from the established and published prices.

26. A method of providing at a processing station an indication or a minimal price for a transaction, including the steps of:

providing prices for the transaction at the processing station from a plurality of first sources offering established and published prices for the transaction,

providing for the transmission of the published prices from the first sources to the processing station through a wide area network,

providing for the transmission of the published prices from the first sources to the processing station through a wide area network,

providing from the first sources prices discounted for the transactions from the published prices from the first sources,

providing for the transmission of the published prices from the first sources to the processing station through the network, and

displaying the published prices from the first source and the discounted prices from the first source simultaneously on a display screen at the processing station.

27. A method as set forth in claim 28 wherein

the published prices for the transactions are provided with a first protocol and wherein

the discounted prices for the transactions are provided with a second protocol different from the first protocol and wherein

the first and second protocols are made compatible and wherein

the published prices and the discounted prices in the compatible format are displayed simultaneously on the display screen.

28. A method as set forth in claim 28, including the steps of:

providing prices for the transaction at the processing station from at least one second source offering published prices for the second source, the second source being different from the first source,

providing for the transmission of the published prices from the at least one second source to the processing station through the internet, and

displaying the published prices from the at least one second source on the display screen simultaneously with the display of the published prices and the discounted prices from the first sources.

29. A method as set forth in claim 28 wherein

the published prices from the at least one second source is provided with a protocol different from one of the first and second protocols and wherein

the protocol from the at least one second sources is made compatible with the compatible first and second protocols and wherein

the published prices and discount prices from the first sources and the published price from the at least one second source, in the compatible format, are displayed simultaneously on the display screen.

30. A method as set forth in claim 31 wherein

the published prices from the first sources in the compatible format are displayed on a first portion of the display screen and wherein

the discounted prices from the first sources, and the published prices from the at least one second source, are displayed in the compatible format on a second portion of the display screen.

31. A method of providing for billing a particular transaction, including the steps of:
providing in a legacy server legacy transactions, and the prices of performing the
legacy transactions, relating to the particular transaction,
providing in at least a second server individual transactions, and the prices of
performing the individual transactions, relating to the particular transaction,
providing, at a processing station displaced from the legacy server, a database
having a volatile memory for storing indications of the legacy transactions relating to the
particular transaction, and the prices of performing the legacy transactions and indications of the
individual transactions and the prices of performing the individual transactions,
indicating in the database a selected one of the legacy transactions and the
individual transactions as the particular transaction and indicating the price for performing the
selected one of the legacy and individual transactions, and
communicating to the legacy server the indications of the selected one of the
legacy and individual transactions and the price for performing the selected one of the legacy and
individual transactions.

32. A method as set forth in claim 33, including the steps of:

providing a printer at the legacy server, and

printing a ticket in the printer at the legacy server a ticket providing for the performance of the selected one of the legacy and individual transactions as the particular transaction.

33. A method as set forth in claim 33 wherein

the legacy transactions have a first protocol and wherein

the individual transactions have at least a second protocol different from the first protocol and wherein

the database at the processing station provides a protocol compatible with the first protocol and the at least second protocol and processes the legacy transactions and the individual transactions in the compatible protocol.

34. A method as set forth in claim 36 wherein

the indications of the legacy transactions are provided to the database at the processing station through the a wide area network and wherein

the indications of the individual transactions are provided through the internet to the database at the processing station.

35. A method as set forth in claim 33 wherein

the transactions are airline flights on a particular date between a particular
originating location and a particular destination and wherein

the legacy transactions are airline flights serviced by a global distribution system

5 including Sabre, Galileo, Amadeus and Worldspan and provided by a number of the major
airlines and wherein

the individual transactions are airline flights provided by a number of airlines
other than those serviced by the global distribution system.

36. A method as set forth in claim 37 wherein

the legacy transactions have a first protocol and wherein

the individual transactions have at least a second protocol different from the first
protocol and wherein

the database at the processing station provides a protocol compatible with the first
protocol and the at least second protocol and processes the legacy transactions and the individual
transactions in the compatible protocol and wherein

the indications of the legacy transactions are provided to the database at the
processing station through a wide area network and wherein

10 the indications of the individual transactions are provided through the internet to
the database at the processing station and wherein

the transactions are airline flights on a particular date between a particular
originating location and a particular destination and wherein

the legacy transactions are airline flights serviced by a global distribution system,
including Sabre, Galileo, Amadeus and Worldspan and provided by a number of the major
airlines and wherein

the individual transactions are airline flights provided by a number of airlines
other than those serviced by the global distribution system.

37. A method as set forth in claim 33, including the steps of:
providing an accounting application at the legacy server, and
operating the accounting application at the legacy server to provide an accounting
record of the selected one of the legacy and individual transactions as the particular transaction
and to provide an accounting record of the price of the selected one of the transactions.

38. A method of providing at a processing station for a billing of a particular
transaction, including the steps of:
providing legacy transactions and the price of performing the legacy transactions,
providing individual transactions and the price of performing the individual
transactions,

providing a local area network and a printer at the processing station,

providing at the processing station a database for storing volatile information

including a selected one of the legacy transactions and the individual transactions and the price

of performing the selected one of the legacy transactions and the individual transactions as the

particular transaction,

providing for the passage through the internet to the printer of the selected one of

the legacy transactions and the individual transactions as the particular transaction and of the

price for performing the selected one of the legacy transactions and the individual transactions,

and

printing at the printer the selected one of the legacy transactions and the

individual transactions and the cost of performing the selected one of the legacy transactions and

the individual transactions.

39. A method as set forth in claim 40 wherein

the legacy transactions and the price of performing the legacy transactions are

transmitted to the processing station through a wide area network and wherein

the individual transactions and the price of performing the individual transactions

are transmitted to the processing station through the internet.

40. A method as set forth in claim 40 wherein

the legacy transactions are provided in a first protocol and wherein

the individual transactions are provided in a second protocol and wherein

the first and second protocols are made compatible at the processing station.

41. A method as set forth in claim 40 wherein

the legacy transactions and the price for performing the legacy transactions are

displayed in a first portion of a display screen at the processing station and wherein

the individual transactions and the prices for performing the individual

transactions are displayed in a second portion of the display screen at the processing station.

42. A method as set forth in claim 41 wherein

the legacy transactions are provided in a first protocol and wherein

the individual transactions are provided in a second protocol and wherein

the first and second protocols are made compatible at the processing station and

wherein

the legacy transactions and the price for performing the legacy transactions are

displayed in a first portion of a display screen at the processing station and wherein

the individual transactions and the prices for performing the individual

transactions are displayed in a second portion of the display screen at the processing station.

43. In a method of billing a particular transaction, the steps at a processing station of:
receiving, at a database at the processing station from a global distribution system,
indications of legacy transactions fulfilling the particular transaction,
receiving, at a database from sources other than the global distribution system,
5 individual transactions fulfilling the particular transaction,
selecting, at the database for the particular transaction, one of the legacy
transactions and the individual transactions, and
providing for the printing of a ticket for the particular transaction at one of the
processing stations and the global distribution system.

44. In a method as set forth in claim 45 wherein
the indications of the legacy transactions are in a first protocol and the indications
of the individual transactions are in a second protocol,
the steps of:
5 making the first and second protocols compatible with each other, and
selecting in the compatible protocol one of the legacy transactions and the
individual transactions as the particular transaction.

45. In a method as set forth in claim 45, the steps of:
receiving the indications of the legacy transactions through a wide area network at
the database of the processing station, and
receiving the indications of the individual transactions through the internet at the
5 database of the processing station.

46. In a method as set forth in claim 45 wherein
the legacy indications and the individual indications are for an airplane flight on a
particular date between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein
the legacy indications are provided by a global distribution system representing
several of the primary airlines and wherein
the individual indications are provided by other airlines than the primary airlines.

47. In a method as set forth in claim 45 wherein
the legacy indications and the individual indications are for an airplane flight on a
particular date between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein
the indications of the legacy flights are provided by a global distribution system
5 representing several of the primary airlines and the legacy indications are provided for airline
flights at established and published prices and wherein

the individual indications are provided by the airlines in the global distribution system for the airline flights at prices discounted from the established and published prices.

48. In a method as set forth in claim 45 wherein

the legacy indications and the individual indications are for an airplane flight on a particular date between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein

the indications of the legacy flights are provided by a global distribution system representing several of the primary airlines and the legacy indications are provided for airline flights at established and published prices and wherein

the individual indications are provided by consolidators who purchase blocks of airline tickets at prices discounted from the established and published prices and offer these tickets to the public at prices which are between the established and published prices and the discounted prices.

49. In a method as set forth in claim 46, including the steps of:

receiving the indications of the legacy transactions through a wide area network at the database of the processing station,

receiving the indications of the individual transactions through the internet at the database of the processing station wherein

the legacy indications and the individual indications are for an airplane flight on a particular date between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein

the legacy indications are provided by a global distribution system representing several of the primary airlines and wherein

the individual indications are provided by other airlines than the primary airlines.

50. In a method as set forth in claim 46, including the steps of:

receiving the indications of the legacy transactions through a wide area network at the database of the processing station,

receiving the indications of the individual transactions through the internet at the database of the processing station wherein

the legacy indications and the individual indications are for an airplane flight on a particular date between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein

the indications of the legacy flights are provided by a global distribution system representing several of the primary airlines and the legacy indications are provided for airline

flights at established and published prices and wherein

the individual indications are provided by the airlines in the global distribution system for the airline flights at prices discounted from the established and published prices.

51. In a method as set forth in claim 46, including the steps of:

receiving the indications of the legacy transactions through a wide area network at the database of the processing station,

receiving the indications of the individual transactions through the Internet at the database of the processing station wherein

the legacy indications and the individual indications are for an airplane flight on a particular date between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein

the indications of the legacy flights are provided by a global distribution system representing several of the primary airlines and the legacy indications are provided for airline flights at established and published prices and wherein

the individual indications are provided by consolidators who purchase blocks of airline tickets at prices discounted from the established and published prices and offer these tickets to the public at prices which are between the established and published prices and the discounted prices.

52. A method of billing at a processing station for a particular transaction, including the steps of:

providing, in a gateway at a processing station, indications of a plurality of transactions each capable of being used as the particular transaction,

5 providing for a selection in a database at the processing station of a specific one of
the transactions in the plurality as the particular transaction, the specific one of the transactions
being obtained from an issuer displaced from the processing station and providing for the
performance of the specific one of the transactions, and

 providing in the database at the processing station for a printing of the selected
10 one of the transactions by a printer selected from a group consisting of (a) a printer at the
processing station and (b) a printer at the premises of the issuer of the selected one of the
transactions.

53. In a method as set forth in claim 54 wherein

 some of the transactions in the plurality are legacy transactions provided through a
wide area network to the gateway at the processing station and others of the transactions in the
plurality are provided to the gateway in the processing station through the internet.

54. In a method as set forth in claim 54 wherein

the indication of one of the transactions in the plurality is provided to the printer at the processing station through a local area network when the printer at the processing center is selected by the database and wherein

5 the indication of the specific one of the transactions in the printer as the transaction is provided at the premises of the issuer through the local area network, a gateway at the processing station and a wide area network when the printer at the premises of the issuer is selected by the database.

55. A method as set forth in claim 54 wherein

the transactions in the plurality are airline flights on a particular day between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein

some of the airline flights in the plurality are provided by a legacy server which represents some of the primary airlines and which quotes established and published prices and wherein others of the airline flights in the plurality are provided by airlines other than the primary airlines in the legacy server or are provided by the primary airlines offering prices discounted from the established and published prices.

56. In a method as set forth in claim 55 wherein

the indication of one of the transactions in the plurality is provided to the printer at the processing station as the particular transaction through a local area network when the printer at the processing center is selected by the database and wherein

5 the indication of the specific one of the transactions in the printer at the specific one of the transactions is provided at the premises of the issuer through the local area network, a gateway at the processing station and a wide area network when the printer at the premises of the issuer is selected by the database and wherein

10 the transactions in the plurality are airline flights on a particular day between a particular originating location and a particular destination and wherein

15 some of the airline flights in the plurality are provided by a legacy server representing some of the primary airlines and which quote established and published prices and wherein others of the airline flights in the plurality are provided by airlines other than the primary airlines in the legacy server or are provided by the primary airlines offering prices discounted from the established and published prices.

57. An article of manufacture comprising:

at least one computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied jointly or severally thereon for causing a plurality of computers to perform the acts of:

- a. providing a human interface;
- b. inputting via the human interface, a request for details of travel services, the request being in a format intelligible to a GDS;
- c. sending a first copy of the request to the GDS;
- d. sending, through Internet, a second copy of the request to a server computer;
- e. receiving, from the GDS, a first details of travel services;
- f. receiving, via Internet, from the server computer, a second details of travel services, the second details of travel services having been received by the server computer in response to at least one web response received by the server computer in response to a web request, from the server computer, to a web site, wherein the web request is composed responsive to a data content of the request for services;
- and
- g. outputting, via the human interface, a representation of the first and the second details of travel services.

58. A computer system for presenting travel industry services comprising:
- a client computer;
- and
- a server computer communicating with the client computer using Internet;
- wherein the server computer and the client computer cooperatively exchange data and execute instructions for:
- a. providing a human interface;
 - b. inputting via the human interface, a request for details of travel services, the request being in a format intelligible to a GDS;
 - c. sending a first copy of the request to the GDS;
 - d. sending, through Internet, a second copy of the request to a server computer;
 - e. receiving, from the GDS, a first details of travel services;
 - f. receiving, via Internet, from the server computer, a second details of travel services, the second details of travels services having been received by the server computer in response to at least one web response received by the server computer in response to a web request, from the server computer, to

a web site, wherein the web request is composed responsive to a data

content of the request for services; and

- g. outputting, via the human interface, a representation of the first and the second details of travel services.